

Walleye having major impact on trout at Deer Creek

By JOHN BEST
Herald Correspondent

CHARLESTON — Calculating the routines and habits of a species to take advantage of them, has been an angler's strategy since Ahab caught up to Moby Dick.

This strategy is currently effective for fishermen at Deer Creek. Every spring when the water warms and the natural breeding cycle begins to ticks in walleye and trout, they swim for the head waters of Deer Creek.

There is only one place to escape the reservoir and find flowing waters for egg laying and breeding. Each spring spawning fish travel under the Charleston Bridge and then up stream in the

Outdoor news

al weeks, leaving some fishermen near the Charleston bridge with full creels. Fishermen and biologists call it the Walleye run, and for the few weeks it lasts it is an exciting adventure for fishermen.

Deer Creek has only recently been a Walleye fishery. If it were up to wildlife biologists Deer Creek wouldn't be a Walleye fishery at all. Charlie Thompson, Fisheries Manager for Central Utah says, "It's probably the worst thing that could happen to Deer Creek. The walleye came to Deer Creek in the early 1980's

reservoir hurt a lot of our options for fishery management.

"We currently stock 170,000 seven inch fingerlings (trout) in Deer Creek each fall. When walleye populations increase they will be a serious threat to the small trout."

Thompson says it would be very expensive and difficult to stock larger trout in the reservoir.

The Division of Wildlife Resources has valid reason to be displeased, but they are trying to make the most of a bad situation. According to Thompson the division is stocking small mouth bass a species he says they have found co-exist very well with the walleye. The perch in the reservoir are also threatened, and will almost certainly be eliminated if walleye populations get large

ferred fish for Deer Creek, they are doing well. The large amounts of smaller fish walleye feed on are giving them rapid growth, at least until the walleye diminish the food supply.

Conservation officer Mark Connolly says some fishermen have been doing very good. "Last week several 11-pound fish were caught," says Connolly. Anglers at the bridge are also talking about a 13-pound walleye taken recently. Connolly says a state record walleye was taken last year weighing 14.1 pounds from Deer Creek. The record was quickly broken by a 14.6 pound walleye taken from Starvation.

Connolly says the trout fishing has also been good for those fishing near the spawning area. "Many have been catching their

men have been using a chartreuse colored jig for walleye and fishing from 6 p.m. until 2 a.m. when they seem to be actively feeding, according to Connolly. Fishing 24 hours a day is legal, but Connolly cautions against illegal snagging of the fish, which is a practice of some fishermen.

A threat currently causing concern to wildlife officials is a large flock of approximately 500 Western Grebe. This unusual bird stays on the reservoir most of the summer and eats many of the smaller fish. Thompson says this large flock will probably impact the perch population.

Fishing on the Provo River is usually very consistent. To keep the river a top fishery, wildlife officials are studying the trout

protect and increase rainbow populations.

According to Connolly, the browns hide primarily under the banks and are not caught as often as the rainbows which swim in the open water more frequently.

Current fishing regulations on the Provo River from Olmstead Diversion Dam to Deer Creek Dam are set to protect and restore rainbow populations.

The current regulation allows anglers to catch and keep only two browns under 15 inches, and release everything else. The proclamation also states artificial lures only for this section of river. The artificial lure rule helps the catch and release program. According to Connolly most bait-caught fish are hooked deep and die if released. Fish caught

Trout are being picked up trolling at Deer Creek

By REX C. INFANGER
Herald Correspondent

DEER CREEK — The water has started to warm and small trout are being picked up near the surface while trolling. Use a yellow with red head Carter Spoon down two colors. Troll early in the morning on the north end of the lake. The walleye should start running very soon. Make sure when you are fishing for them that you don't stomp up and down the river channel and destroy the spawning beds. If you see someone else doing it, mention to them that they are ruining fishing two years from now.

ECHO RESERVOIR — A few small trout are being picked up on the east shore down by the dam. Berkley Power Bait is a good one to start with. Some fish are being taken on the west shore where the old river channel goes up against the bank. Use worms.

ROCKPORT — Fair fishing on the upper end right where the river comes in. Balls of Fire on a size 16 treble fished in the back current is taking the fish.

UTAH LAKE — Walleye fishing has slowed down this past week although a few small males are still being caught. The dike along the Provo River seems to be one of the better places. A few catfish are being taken with worms.

JORDAN RIVER — Catfish fishing has picked up and should continue to get better in the next couple of weeks. If you can find some fresh carp meat, it is an excellent bait.

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Lightning or wind, or a little of both, knocked a tree down onto power wires in Charleston, pulling a pole over. Heber Light and Power employees used their ingenuity to put the pole back in place and hold it up until it could be permanently rerooted.

Drowning Probably Caused By Heart Attack

An Illinois man who was pulled from Deer Creek Reservoir last Friday afternoon apparently died of a heart attack, according to Wasatch County Sheriff Edd Thacker.

Deputy John Rogers reported that Carl G. Bersa, 65, who was visiting Woodland family members, was floating on a tube with his granddaughter, about three or four years old, some 150 to 200 feet from shore. Rogers said the tube tipped over and the victim "ended up with some sort of distress" when he tried to calm the little girl and get her out of the water. His daughter-in-law went into the water to try to rescue the victim, who rallied, then lost consciousness. She was able to get him into a life jacket, but couldn't get him into the boat until her husband arrived from shore in another boat.

The victim was taken to Wasatch County Hospital by ambulance and transferred to LDS Medical Center in Salt Lake City by Life Flight, and was pronounced dead the following morning, Thacker said.

8-1-90



Carl G. Bersa, 65, Illinois, apparently died of a heart attack after being pulled from Deer Creek Reservoir last Friday.



Herald Photo/Brian Tregaskis

Charlie Thompson, a Division of Wildlife Resources fisheries biologist, releases thousands of trout into Deer Creek Thursday.

DWR stocking Deer Creek with trout

By ROD COLLETT

Associate Sports Editor

Name a popular game fish and Deer Creek Reservoir probably has it.

It's having too many of one particular kind of fish that worries the Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR).

Now, to counter a growing influx of voracious walleye, the DWR has begun the first of five trout plants at Deer Creek that is expected to boost the rainbow

population by 170,000, according to Charlie Thompson, chief fisheries biologist for the Central Region.

The stocking began Thursday with 45,000 trout coming from Jones Holes federal hatchery near Vernal. The stocking will end sometime next week when a small load of trout will be shipped from the Fountain Green state hatchery.

While trout are the game and walleye are big names, Thompson says many anglers are having

difficulty distinguishing between yellow perch and smallmouth bass introduced four years ago.

"Maybe some people are not aware they (smallmouth) are there," he said. "Smallmouth must be 12 inches before you keep them. Yellow perch are not similar to smallmouth which are brown in coloring.

"Smallmouth are showing up with more frequency. It's the direction we want to go. We are worried about walleye and their impact on the trout fishery. When

walleye and smallmouth are together they are compatible. We put smallmouth in four years ago and we feel they'll begin to spawn next spring."

Currently, Deer Creek offers rainbow trout, walleye, smallmouth, yellow perch and brown trout for the dedicated angler.

"Rainbows are still the bread and butter fish of Deer Creek. Fishing is real good right now with most of the rainbows 15- to 18-inches."

case he didn't embrace and a highly regarded TV star opposed a pair of measures she didn't fully understand.

75 annual deductible paid by beneficiaries would increase to \$200. The monthly premium — \$28.60 this year — would grow gradually to \$46.20 by 1995.

Disagreement remained over the exact size and nature of cuts in Medicare reimbursements to doctors and hospitals. Those reductions were expected to total about \$33 billion over the next five years.

The plan cuts student loans, farm aid and other benefit programs.

Final agreements were being sought over Medicaid, which helps the poor pay medical bills. Although the program will be cut, liberals wanted to provide an additional \$2.9 billion for low-income elderly people. The Bush administration was trying to reduce that figure.

Also under negotiation were \$2.5 billion worth of tax breaks for the oil and gas industry, championed by Senate Finance Committee Chairman Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas. The Senate also wanted \$5.6 billion worth of tax breaks for businesses, including those doing research, and individuals, for items such as employer-provided educational benefits.

With Election Day approaching, members were getting itchy to halt the budget bickering and return home for campaigning.

If the leaders were reading their votes correctly, the House and Senate — where few problems were expected — would dispose of the bill quickly and let Congress adjourn for the year over the weekend.

Michel expected only about 50 of the House's 175 Republicans to vote for the plan, mainly because of disgruntlement over its approximately \$150 billion in new taxes and spending cuts considered by some as insufficient. But a GOP pep rally for the plan on Capitol Hill, attended by Sununu and budget chief Richard Darman, left supporters encouraged.

Don't flirt with a heart attack! The

join the tax-advisory Grace Commission if elected to congress.

"Apparently, he has found an agenda said Orton. He said that in earlier joint political events, Snow had announced that he would go to Washington without an agenda and just listen.

At all four of Thursday's 3rd District campaign events, the federal budget and deficit was a key issue.

Snow said he differed from Orton because his budget proposals called for no new taxes.

Orton suggested a three-point approach of budget process reform, spending cuts and tax reforms, including a new federal transfer tax to retire the federal deficit.

Snow said he would freeze spending, increase the federal budget 4 percent instead of the usual 10 percent, and allow growth and the budget reduction to pay off the federal debt within seven years.

Orton called Snow's plan an idea of the 1980s — basically David Stockman's trickle-down concept.

Snow said it wasn't the same

holding pointers feet to the fire, and believes it could be done without losing jobs.

Snow said Geneva Steel has made a good-faith effort to meet clean air standards, and he said he supported new standards that will add about \$175 to each new automobile. "That's a small price to pay," he said.

Snow also said he would be willing to consider a light rail public transportation system for Utah.

Both candidate's personal pasts were questioned.

Orton was asked about delinquent taxes. He said they stemmed from a dispute he has with the state. Orton indicated that he has appealed and has met every requirement of the state.

Snow said allegations from Utahns for Ethical Government and others relating to allegations of involvement with convicted felon Michael Strand and Global Oil/Unique Battery have been reviewed extensively and he has been cleared of wrongdoing by four at-

titudes for the Bush administration's stated aims.

"It's the wrong size force," the Wisconsin Democrat said. "It's too big to stay there and too small to attack."

Echoing Cheney's remarks, CIA Director William Webster said Thursday that Saddam was greatly improving the quality of his defenses in Kuwait, making any U.S. offensive operation more problematic and costly.

Pentagon spokesman Pete Williams told reporters the Iraqi occupation forces were fortifying their positions by digging anti-tank ditches, laying mines and building berms, or earthen walls, to protect and hide their armor. He said they also were building roads to allow for quick reinforcements.

"While the Iraqis have dug in, that is an indication to our analysts not that they have lost the capability to go on the offensive but rather that they don't show any sign of letting go of Kuwait," Williams said.



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